

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/879,639

Examiner

Christine Ng

Applicant(s)

CENIZA, GLEN

Art Unit

2663

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 12 June 2001.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-9.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 12 June 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

Chau T. Nguyen
CHAU NGUYEN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Michael Cesarano on January 21, 2005.

a) In claim 1, lines 17-18, part e. has been replaced with:

-- e. sending an IP packet from a host on one of a first network in said plurality of networks to a host on another of a second network in said plurality of networks, said IP packet having as its destination IP address said virtual IP address of said host attached to said second network and having as its source IP address the actual IP address of said host on said first network. --

b) In claim 8, part g., line 6, delete "local".

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Referring to claims 1-5, 6-7 and 8-9, none of the prior art discloses a method of sending an IP packet from a host on one of the plurality of networks to a host on another of the plurality of networks, comprising that the virtual IP address has the same netID as said network and a hostID that is unique to said network; creating in each said VPN-router connected to each said network, one or more tables cross referencing each virtual IP address on said network to the netID of the remote network of the host which said virtual IP address represents; and sending an IP packet from a host on one of a

first network in said plurality of networks to a host on another of a second network in said plurality of networks, said IP packet having as its destination IP address said virtual IP address of said host attached to said second network and having as its source IP address the actual IP address of said host on said first network.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

U.S. Patent No. 6,195,356 to Anello et al discloses a switching system in which each station is assigned an IP address and a virtual IP address for communicating with stations in another subnet, and wherein the set of IP addresses and virtual IP address are stored in a database in the central switch to allow packets to be switched across subnets with the appropriate destination addressees. Refer to Column 4, line 17 to Column 5, line 52.

U.S. Patent No. 6,434,627 to Millet et al discloses assigning a netID and hostID to networks and stations, using the addresses in an address translation system to specify mapping between the outside and local addresses of nodes, and using the address translation system to change packet source and destination addresses during data transmission. Refer to Column 1, lines 25-45; Column 5,

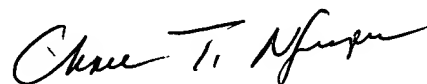
lines 50-63; Column 6, line 35 to Column 7, line 36; and Column 12, line 65 to Column 14, line 3.

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Christine Ng whose telephone number is (571) 272-3124. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F; 8:00 am - 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chau Nguyen can be reached on (571) 272-3126. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

C. Ng *cn*
January 21, 2005



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